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Cohen says he'd lie, bully and threaten people for Trump

BY MOLLY CRANE-NEWMAN AND JOSEPHINE STRATMAN
New York Daily News

NEW YORK
More than six years after his conviction for doing Donald Trump's dirty work — cementing a bitter rivalry with the man he

once said he'd "take a bullet" for — Michael Cohen testified Monday at the former president's hush money trial.

Prosecutors called Trump's former personal lawyer to the stand as the Manhattan Supreme Court trial passes the monthlong mark.

"Just be prepared, there's gonna be a lot of women coming forward," Cohen, then a surrogate on Trump's campaign, said the future president warned him as he embarked on his 2016 run for the White House.

The lawyer testified about the August 2015 Trump tower meet-

ing where Cohen, Trump and supermarket tabloid publisher David Pecker allegedly hatched a plan to boost Trump's candidacy by planting positive stories about Trump and suppressing negative ones.

"What was discussed is the power of the National Enquirer

in terms of it being located at the cash register of so many supermarkets and bodegas — that if we could place positive stories about Mr. Trump that would be beneficial, that if we could place negative stories about some of the other candid, that would also be beneficial," Cohen testified.

Cohen walked the jury through how he allegedly carried out that scheme and how Trump told him to "handle" a story from a Trump Tower doorman that he'd had a love child, and how he believed Playboy model Karen McDou-

SEE COHEN, 4A



AFP/TNS

Palestinians pack their belongings Monday as they prepare to flee Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip amid the ongoing conflict between Israel and the Hamas militant group.

ANALYSIS

Israel report further clouds Biden's approach to Gaza

BY JOHN T. BENNETT
CQ-Roll Call

WASHINGTON

A much-anticipated State Department report on possible Israeli humanitarian violations in Gaza is quintessential to President Joe Biden's presidency: It

sends mixed messages about the Jewish state's conduct of the war and further clouds the administration's murky policy approach.

The report, which the administration agreed to provide under its National Security Memorandum 20, is the latest attempt to influence Israeli Prime

Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's conduct of his war with Hamas in Gaza without further alienating voters at home as polls indicate Biden is in a dead heat with former President Donald Trump.

The report reflects a pattern from the president and his top aides of criticizing — even threat-

ening — Netanyahu while also choosing middle-ground approaches and sending mixed signals.

Biden isn't going far enough for a key part of his base in battleground states like Michigan and Minnesota, where there are large Arab American populations. As part of the pro-Palestinian "uncommitted" protest vote push, hundreds of thousands of typically Democratic voters have declined to cast ballots for Biden in primaries this year.

"Biden's announcement to halt American arms for Israel's

SEE GAZA, 4A

Is Newsom memoir aiming for national audience?

BY BENJAMIN ORESKES AND TARYN LUNA
Los Angeles Times

California Gov. Gavin Newsom is working on his third book, a memoir that will allow him to tell his life's story to a national audience that may not know much about the Democratic governor who will leave office in 2½ years.

Boosting his national image has become a regular feature of Newsom's second and final term as governor, as he's traveled the country to stump for President Joe Biden's reelection, attack Republicans and appear on cable news shows. Newsom has said he's not interested in running for president, but writing a memoir may be his most overt move yet that indicates otherwise.

"The governor is writing a book, and he looks forward to sharing it whenever it is completed," said Nathan Click, a spokesperson for Newsom, when asked about the project.

Politicians seeking to introduce themselves to more voters routinely publish an autobiographical book as they explore whether to launch a campaign. A litany of presidential candidates — successful and not — have written books before they embarked on runs, including Vice President Kamala Harris, Gov. Ron Desantis and Sen. Bernie Sanders, to name a few.

The promotional tours that

SEE NEWSOM, 4A

State's Latino lawmakers seeing high success rate on bills

BY MATHEW MIRANDA
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In a significant shift from anti-immigrant policies of the 1990s, California now leads the nation in helping undocumented residents — issuing driver's licenses, protections from deportation, COVID-19 pandemic relief, health care and, most recently, food assistance.

These wins coincide with the Latino community exploding to 40% of the state population, and speaks to the growing influ-

ence of the lawmakers representing them over the last 10 years.

In that time, the California Latino Legislative Caucus — a group that only welcomes Democrats — has championed policies at a more successful rate than the Legislature average and reshaped how the state treats its undocumented immigrants.

An analysis of the group's priority legislation — an annual set of bills members vote to support — shows that the caucus turns its bills into laws 54% of

the time.

Members have pushed forward groundbreaking policies to expand health care access for all undocumented immigrants, create an ethnic studies requirement to graduate high school and provide farmworkers with first-in-the-nation overtime provisions. Other successful legislation has reached beyond the Latino community, including increasing sick days for all California workers and tackling climate policy.

SEE LAWMAKERS, 4A



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California Supreme Court Chief Justice Patricia Guerrero, center, the first Latina to serve as the state's chief justice, is recognized as an honoree during the Latino Spirit Awards at the state Capitol in 2023.



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